

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are pending in the present application.

By this amendment, claims 24-35 have been amended and claims 36-38 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of claims 36-38 in a continuation/divisional application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group 1, claims 1-35, drawn to a method; and

Group 2, claims 36-38, drawn to an apparatus.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, without traverse, Group 1, Claims 1-35.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad D. Wells, Registration No. 50,875, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

- Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 30, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By James T. Eller, Jr.
James T. Eller, Jr.
Registration No.: 39,538
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicants

CPW